

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested.

New corrected drawings will be submitted in due course. ✓

However, the drawing objection is respectfully traversed. The rejection alleges that the overpressure protection part and outer periphery are not shown. The overpressure protection part is shown in Figure 13 as an anchor. The outer periphery of the substrate is also shown in Figure 13. Therefore, this contention is respectfully traversed.

Claims 35, 43, 61 and 65-67 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 35 has been amended to show the singular tense. Claim 43 has been amended to emphasize that the resistor is formed on a part of the substrate other than the membrane. Claim 61 reads on the extending portions shown in Figure 12 as the central pegs 1310. The terminology of "pegs" has also been adopted in claim 61.

Claim 65 has been amended to change "designed for" to --specified--.

The multiple claims stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Fisher. Other claims stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Fisher in view of Sparks. This contention is respectfully traversed, and it is respectfully

suggested that the rejection does not meet the patent office's burden of providing a prima facie showing of unpatentability.

As explained in the specification, previous sensors of this type are certainly known, but these sensors were not capable of operating to sense the kind of pressures which are now sensed. The rejection states that Fisher states that he is capable of sensing a "high pressure". However, nowhere does Fisher in any way quantify what this high pressure would actually be. In fact, no one in the prior art was able to sense a pressure as high as the present system. In contrast to the paraphrasing of the claims which was done in the official action, Claim 1 specifies that the sensor is "formed to be capable of sensing pressures greater than 6000 PSI". Nothing in Fisher is in any way suggestive of sensing pressures that are in excess of 6000 PSI. All that Fisher says is that his system is capable of sensing "high" pressure. Moreover, this sensor is disclosed in the context of a semiconductor wafer processing system. These systems typically operate at pressures which are at least an order of magnitude lower than 6000 PSI. When Fisher discusses high pressure, therefore, that should be taken in the context of high pressure for a semiconductor processing system. No one having ordinary skill in the art would expect a semiconductor processing system to operate at 6000 PSI. In fact, Fisher's

system uses a vacuum 122 which would certainly not be expected in a high pressure system. For all these reasons, Claim 1 should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom. Each of these claims defines a system which is usable in a pressure environment greater than 6000 PSI, and this is not in any way taught or suggested by Fisher.

The additionally cited reference to Sparks teaches a micromachined element on the same substrate with another IC device. Clearly, however, this other device is not a device which provides a Young's module which is effective to allow the diaphragm to withstand at least 6000 PSI, for reasons given above. Therefore, the rejection based on Fisher in view of Sparks is respectfully traversed for similar reasons to those given above.

Claim 16 requires using material that allows withstanding at least 6000 PSI, and this is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art, for reasons given above.

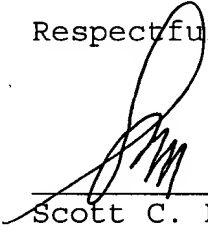
Claim 33 similarly defines that the device is capable of withstanding a pressure greater than at least 6000 PSI, which is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art, for reasons given above. In addition, however, Claim 33 specifies outer size from edge to edge which is less than 100 microns. This again is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

The remaining claims should be allowable for similar reasons. Therefore, in view of the above amendments and remarks, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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